We claim:

- 1. An amorphous form of levocetirizine dihydrochloride.
- 2. An amorphous form of levocetirizine dihydrochloride, which is substantially free of crystalline forms of cetirizine dihydrochloride.
- 3. An amorphous form of levocetirizine dihydrochloride characterized by an X-ray powder diffraction pattern substantially in accordance with Figure (1).
- 4. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of an amorphous form of levocetirizine dihydrochloride and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.
- 5. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 4, which is substantially free of crystalline forms of cetirizine dihydrochloride.
- 6. A composition comprising levocetirizine dihydrochloride as a solid, wherein at least 80% by weight of said levocetirizine dihydrochloride is in an amorphous form.
- 7. The composition of claim 5, wherein at least 90% of said solid levocetirizine dihydrochloride is in an amorphous form.
- 8. The composition of claim 6, wherein at least 95% of said solid levocetirizine dihydrochloride is in an amorphous form.
- 9. The composition of claim 7, wherein at least 99% of said solid levocetirizine dihydrochloride is in an amorphous form.

- 10. The composition of claim 8, which is substantially free of crystalline forms of cetirizine dihydrochloride.
- 11. The composition of claim 6, wherein at least 1% of said solid levocetirizine dihydrochloride is in a crystalline form.
- 12. The composition of claim 11, wherein at least 5% of said solid levocetirizine dihydrochloride is in a crystalline form.
 - 13. The composition of claim 6, which is a pharmaceutical composition.
- 14. The composition of claim 13, further comprising one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.
- 15. The composition of claim 14, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is a solid dosage form for oral administration.
- 16. The composition of claim 15, wherein said solid dosage form is a tablet.
- 17. The composition of claim 6 having a moisture content ranging from about 0.3% to about 12% by KF method.
- 18. The composition of claim 6 having a moisture content ranging from about 1.5% to about 7.5% by KF method.
- 19. A process for the preparation of an amorphous form of (-)-[2-[4-[(4-Chlorophenyl)-phenyl methyl]-1- piperazinyl] ethoxy] acetic acid dihydrochloride (levocetirizine dihydrochloride), which comprises
 - a) providing levocetirizine free base or salt thereof in a solvent carrier;

- b) treating said levocetirizine in said carrier with hydrochloric acid to form a dihydrochloride salt of cetirizine in solution;
 - c) removing said solvent carrier to obtain a residue;
- d) adding a liquid hydrocarbon compound to said residue thereby said amorphous form of levocetirizine dihydrochloride separates as a solid mass.
 - 20. The process of claim 19, further comprising isolating said solid mass.
- 21. The process of claim 20, further comprising removing any unbound solvent from said isolated solid mass to obtain a substantially dry form of said amorphous form of levocetirizine dihydrochloride.
- 22. The process of claim 21, wherein said step of removing said unbound solvent comprises drying said solid mass at a temperature of from about 60 to about 110 degrees Celsius.
- 23. The process of claim 22, further comprising removing any unbound solvent from said isolated solid mass to obtain a substantially dry form of said amorphous form of levocetirizine dihydrochloride.
- 24. The process of claim 19, wherein said liquid hydrocarbon compound is selected from a group consisting of toluene, xylene, cyclohexane, or heptane.
- 25. The process of claim 19, wherein said solvent carrier is selected from a group consisting of a ketone solvent, an aqueous mixture of water miscible solvents, a nitrile solvent, or a hydrocarbon solvent.
- 26. The process of claim 25, wherein said ketone solvent is selected from a group consisting of acetone, methyl ethyl ketone or 2-pentanone or mixture thereof.

- 27. The process of claim 25, wherein said aqueous mixture of water miscible solvents is a C₁-C₅ straight or branched chain alcoholic solvent.
- The process of claim 27, wherein the branched chain alcoholic solvent is selected from the group consisting of methanol, n-propanol, isopropanol, 2-butanol, n-butanol, n-pentanol'or 2-pentanol.
- 29. The process of claim 25, wherein said nitrile solvent is acetonitrile or propionitrile.
- 30. The amorphous form of levocetirizine dihydrochloride produced in accordance with a process of claim 19.
- 31. The amorphous form of levocetirizine dihydrochloride produced in accordance with a process of claim 22.
- 32. The amorphous form of levocetirizine dihydrochloride produced in accordance with a process of claim 25.
- 33. A pharmaceutical composition comprising i) a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of levocetirizine dihydrochloride in a solid form produced by the process of claim 19, and ii) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.
- 34. The composition of claim 33, wherein said pharmaceutical composition is a solid dosage form for oral administration.
- 35. The composition of claim 34, wherein said solid dosage form is a tablet.
- 36. The composition of claim 33, having a moisture content ranging from about 0.3% to about 12% by KF method.

37. The composition of claim 33, having a moisture content ranging from about 1.5% to about 7.5% by KF method.